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Volume 12 FALL 1962 Number 3

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY NEWS

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY NEWS

A Publication of The Nature Conservancy

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O. F. Barnett, Editor

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FALL 1962: Dysart Woods, a project of the Ohio Chapter, is located in Belmont County. It is an area dominated by huge white oaks 3 to 4 feet in diameter, towering more than 120 feet above a mixed forest of beech and sugar maple.

The Editor solicits the gift of articles, notes, photographs, and sketches on the various aspects of The Nature Conservancy. If possible, articles should be typewritten, double-spaced, on one side of the paper. Photographs or negatives should have necessary data attached. All photographs, negatives and articles will be returned if desired.

CONSERVATION GAINS STATUS

By Alexander B. Adams

It is a great pleasure to be here today at this the first independent meeting of The Nature Conservancy. Until this year, as you know, the annual meeting of the Conservancy has always been held in conjunction with that of some other organization; and although the practice had much to recommend it, your Board of Governors decided that the Conservancy had now grown big enough and active enough to warrant having its own meeting, particularly as this policy was likely to encourage a broader type of attendance.

Standing here, at the conclusion of my two years as the Conservancy's executive, I feel somewhat like Janus, that creature out of Roman mythology, who looked at the past and the future at the same time. And while I have no intention of giving way to nostalgic reminiscence, I hope that you will pardon me for taking a moment or two to touch lightly upon the two years that have just gone by. They have been good years. I would be untruthful, if I denied moments of frustration and times when I wondered how I could reconcile the demands of the Conservancy with the demands of my own professional career. And yet I like to feel that this has been a period of progress, a period when the Conservancy has moved forward at an accelerating rate, because of the sound basis built by former presidents like Richard Goodwin and James Ross and because of the able work performed by your officers, your board, and by the many people in the field who have -- by hard work -- turned dreams into realities.

It is with a deep sense of humility that I would like to thank all those who have made the Conservancy's progress possible.

So much for the past. The future is not built on memories but on sterner stuff, and it is with the future that we, in conservation, must concern ourselves.

As for the Conservancy itself, I will not review all its many plans except to say that I think they are excellent; but I would like to mention I am especially pleased by the slate drawn up by your nominating committee. The names are being presented to you after a careful weighing of the needs of the Conservancy against the capabilities of the individuals involved. In my own judgment, your nominating committee has done a particularly able and conscientious job, and I think they deserve our thanks for the steps they have taken to ensure the Conservancy's continued growth and development.

As for conservation generally, I see its future as being determined largely by the next five or ten years. Success or failure during that period may very largely spell success or failure over the next hundreds of years. And while during this relatively short time, great opportunities will exist for the conservation movement, I also see certain hazards that I would like to take occasion to point out.

The first of these is also the most obvious: the increasing pressures being exerted against our remaining open space by a multitude of basic forces. These include such elements in our modern society as expanded population, faster transportation, the drive for profits and lack of long-range planning. They are, for the most part, economic pressures operating to satisfy short-term needs without consideration for recreational, esthetic and scientific requirements, these being, by their very nature, less immediate in their demands. As a consequence, the conservation movement may act too slowly, lagging behind the opportunities for preservation and, as a result, losing them. Let me cite just one practical example. In one of our seacoast states, waterfront property was practically going begging less than thirty years ago. Today, within the same state, an acre of undeveloped waterfront property in many instances will command a price of from twenty to thirty thousand dollars. One small town, which suddenly found that its own citizens had lost all practical access to the water, gulped down its pride and recently paid $120,000 for less than two hundred yards of beach. At that it was lucky: It was the only strip of beach left for sale within the community.

Such prices result from the increasing flexibility of the demand. Thirty years ago in that state a salt marsh was a salt marsh. It could be used only for crabbing, eeling and growing salt hay. Today, however, it is no longer merely a salt marsh. It may be a source of sand or gravel, a site for a golf course, a marina, or a real estate development. And it may even be economically feasible to pay industrial prices for it and use it for the location of a manufacturing plant.

Go almost anywhere in the country, and the situation has been duplicated. Farm land is no longer only farm land; ranch land is no longer merely ranch land. The commercial, recreational and residential needs of the country have driven the price of land upwards and upwards, until in many instances, it has long since passed the range of the individual pocketbook. In fact, a trustee of one of the large foundations recently discussed this problem with me and told me that he foresaw the time, when only government would have sufficient resources to cope with the situation. Private groups, even some of the larger foundations, would not. I hope -- indeed, I believe -- that this day is still sometime off; but I think that its imminence underlines the importance of the Conservancy's growing cooperation with governmental bodies.

What all of this adds up to, in effect, is the importance of time. Today's conservationist is a man in a hurry. If he is to make any contribution, he must remain one jump ahead of the

bulldozer, the highway engineer and the real estate developer. He must act quickly, decisively, and effectively. And I would like to emphasize that last word, effectively, because as you all know, hours put in are not always synonymous with work turned out. But the important difference between the effective conservation work of the past and the effective conservation work of the future is the numbers of people who will have to be involved and the widely varying skills that they will have to bring to bear on the problem. For successful conservation can no longer depend on the individual efforts of devoted people scattered here and there. Instead, like most things in our present society, it has become a highly complex business with increasing emphasis on group -- rather than individual -- action. Stated oversimply, conservation is going through a period of major technological change.

As a result, today the guide lines to effective conservation work are not to be found in the writings of John Muir and John Burroughs, no matter how wonderful and enjoyable they may be, but in the writings of Dr. Parkinson of England, who has described in succinct terms the difficulties of securing effective group action.

For the effective conservationist today is not likely to be a man living by himself and striding the salt meadows in hip boots or hiking in the woods with a pack on his back. When he is doing these things, he is conserving himself--not nature. The true conservationist today is much more likely to be a lawyer working in his office on the legal aspects of scenic easements and inheritance taxes, or an accountant auditing books for a conservation organization, a negotiator attempting to obtain the best price for a particular piece of land, or an administrator coordinating the efforts of private individuals, government and public opinion as well as attempting to raise the money to pay for conservation's bills.

In fact, it is increasingly true that more effective conservation work is today being done in the cities than in the country and behind a desk than under the stars. For the intricacies of our modern society have also made conservation more intricate. We conservationists are in great need of help from lawyers, accountants, engineers, land planners, legislators, negotiators, writers and administrators -- to name merely a few -- than ever before in the history of our activities. And without their help, we have no possibility of succeeding.

Without wishing to belabor a point, I would like to cite a few of the types of problems with which your staff must be concerned.

1. Eligibility for federal income tax deductions on donations. This means, among other things, keeping extremely careful records and filing the proper reports at the proper times. A slip-up here could spell disaster to the Conservancy as well as a great hardship to many individual donors.
2. The tax laws of fifty states. One single matter here is whether it is desirable or not to set up a local corporation, and if so, how is this done. I can add parenthetically that just the task of signing the annual reports required for such corporations can be an onerous job in itself.
3. Maintaining the necessary financial records, which in an organization like ours, are extremely complex, because we are forced by necessity to keep a multiplicity of funds. These records are an absolute necessity, if we are to continue in business.
4. Preparing the special reports requested by foundations and other prospective large donors, who are interested in knowing the ratio of fund-raising costs to funds raised, the turnover of the matching and loan fund, and the market value of land obtained.
5. There are highly intricate land negotiations to be carried on so that both the Conservancy and the donor or seller will receive the protection they all deserve.
6. Do you know any authorities on riparian rights? We can use them. Do you know anyone who wants to help us by becoming an expert on scenic easements? We can use them. Do you know anyone who is an expert in the long-range investment of funds? We can use them on the endowment fund. Or the purchase of short-term Treasury bills, so we can increase the income from temporarily idle funds? Do you know any experts in government, who can help us follow trends in both the federal and state governments? Or any lobbyists, who can guide us when one of our natural areas is threatened? Do you know anyone willing to undertake the leadership in raising a hundred thousand dollars of uncommitted funds, that is, funds not committed to a specific project? We need them next year. Do you know any experts on cyclical billing, who might be able to save us clerical costs, or I.B.M. programmers, who can program natural area requirements and then find free machine time for us, so that the program is useful?

I could go on with this list indefinitely, and never mention once the more classical type of conservationist, the botanist, the biologist, the ornithologist and the other scientists who have played--and will continue to play--such an important role. Nor the dreamers, nor the people who love the seashore or the deep woods, nor the speakers and the lecturers who personally carry the word, nor the men who show their camera slides at club meetings, nor the people

graced with an intimate knowledge of some particular area. We will continue to need them as we always have, but we need the others too.

We need the lawyer, who may be clumsy in differentiating between a chickadee and a nuthatch, but who knows the inheritance laws. We need the accountant who may confuse an oak with a maple but knows how to set up a set of books that will satisfy the Bureau of Internal Revenue Service. And we need thousands of others like them.

This need for personnel with highly developed, specialized skills brings me to the second of the two crises that conservation faces, in the near future -- the ability of the conservation movement to attract and to hold individuals with such talents. For on that ability will largely depend the effectiveness of conservation generally.

The outlook, in this respect, is not dim. Your executive director, when he asked me to speak to you, set up for me the title of "The Growing Status of Conservation"; and although I personally dislike the word "status," it has come to have a clearly defined and generally accepted meaning in our language and it is therefore useful.

Yes, there is no question that conservation is growing in "status." I will not go into the sociological reasons for this, but the trends were clearly predictable several years ago to those whose business it is to watch the changing elements in the public's tastes. In practical terms, this means simply one thing: more people with varied interests and skills are likely to become concerned with the conservation movement than ever before. But the key to this situation lies in the word likely to be concerned. There is no guarantee that they will be, just the probability that they will be more susceptible to having their interest aroused.

This, of course, is the typical pattern of such trends in status. A movement starts to appear within our society, and it can be either encouraged or discouraged like a new flower in our gardens, which we can water and cultivate or completely neglect or root out, according to our wishes for it. Quite obviously, the people with a new-found interest in conservation will represent one of conservation's greatest assets, but it is not as obvious that we will encourage this new interest instead of discouraging it. Why? Because human beings are human beings; and while mankind likes change, it does not like change in its own position. Rarely, if ever, does the old-guard willingly step aside to make room for the new. The most difficult thing in the world to alter is the fixed opinion bred of tradition and experience. What comes out of it is not flexibility and adaptability, but reaction. This can happen as readily in the field of conservation as it has already happened in science, law, medicine, politics or any other field that can be named. For the old-time conservationist may have great difficulty in accepting the skills available from the new-style conservationist, and consequently will not make him truly welcome.

The reason for this is the built-in status that many people already find in conservation and the desperate measures they will take to maintain it. For example, watch the performance of certain people on a nature walk, and ask yourself, whether they are honestly interested in nature and conservation or whether they are more interested in showing how much they know. They clutch their knowledge to themselves as though it were something intrinsically valuable and are unwilling to share it unless they can do it in a fashion that connotes superiority. That the end result of their action is to breed repulsion instead of attraction means nothing to them. They have had the pleasure of thinking themselves important.

I knew an excellent, but not famous, ornithologist, who absolutely refused to have anything to do with amateur birders. He would not lead them on a walk, and he would not address their groups. He had no time for them. For all his supposed brilliance and self-esteem, it had never entered his consciousness that he and his work were supported entirely by tax monies and donations from the public, and that perhaps it was not beneath him to spend a few moments from time to time cultivating the sources that fed him. Instead, his attitude was that of a clerk who was employed by the bookkeeping department of a company for which I once worked. In the middle of a busy afternoon, when he had been subjected to a number of interruptions, the clerk suddenly snarled out: "I could get my work done--if it weren't for these darned customers". Unconscious humor? Yes. But also unconscious tragedy. He was a man who, with his narrow prospective, was going nowhere; and he was the only one who did not know it.

Can this happen in conservation? It certainly can. For the same attitude, if expressed by conservationists, can repel the new talents that are ready to come to us and which we so sorely need.

So as we in conservation face the crises of the next few years, let us give to the newcomers the welcome they deserve. I do not mean a glad-hand reception or a hale-fellow-well-met sort of greeting. I mean the sort of serious, dignified reception that serious, skilled people should have. For example:

1. Let's keep our sense of humor. Someone, somehow, hung on us the tag of "nature lovers" and "bird watchers" and did the cause of conservation irreparable harm. We will never shake that tag without exhibiting more humor, nor will we gain new recruits to our cause.
2. Let's remember that conservation is not the only important issue in the world. One or two of Khrushchev's bombs can do as much damage as thousands of bulldozers.

3. Let's keep our sense of perspective and remember that other people have point's of view also. Many a worthy battle has been lost because of over-emotionalism.

And then let us remember one other important point as we line up our new recruits. It used to be said that "money is the root of all evil", but that old-time saying has, in my mind, been replaced by one far more truthful. It is a quotation from T. S. Eliot's play "The Cocktail Party", and is simply this: "Most of the trouble in the world is caused by people trying to be important".

Are we in the conservation movement going to try to be important as conservation gains status? Or are we going to realize that this cause is greater than anyone of us and demonstrate the humility that great causes both demand and deserve? I am hopeful that the latter course will be our choice, that we will be content to have dug the ground and planted the seed and happy, if need be, to step aside and let someone else grow the flowers.

I am confident that, in the next five or ten years, if conservation meets the challenge posed by normal human behaviour it will also meet the challenge posed by time.

Thank you for listening to me, and thank you for letting me serve you over these past two years.

Editor's Note: Keynote address, Conference and 13th Annual Meeting, The Nature Conservancy, Wheeling, West Virginia, September 22, 1962.

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Miss Lena Artz

Mrs. Walter S. Boardman

Mrs. C. R. Mayes, Jr.

Mr. Paul A. Reynolds

Natural Area Preservation: Private Responsibility, Government Function

A member of the small citizens group which successfully raised over a million dollars for the Kalamazoo, Michigan, Nature Center, Dr. H. Lewis Batts spoke of this venture at the Saturday luncheon of the Nature Conservancy's Annual Meeting. A newly elected member of the Board of Governors, Dr. Batts succeeded in surprising many members of the audience who are finding the task of fund raising anything but easy in their efforts to establish private nature reserves.

At the 4:00 p.m. symposium the same day, leading government officials explained the need for government participation in the land preservation effort and defined some of the obstacles they, and everyone engaged in conservation activities, are constantly running up against.

Donald W. Lynch, Assistant Director, Division Forest Management Research of the Agricultural Department's Forest Service discussed the natural areas under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service and governed by Regulation U-4. A natural area as defined by the Forest Service and the Society of American Foresters, "is a major, natural vegetational type in an unmodified condition, preserved for purposes of science and research. All use, except research, is prohibited, and no improvements of any kind are built."

As they spoke it became clear that the jobs of Daniel B. Beard, Assistant Director of the National Park Service and John F. Shanklin, a member of The Nature Conservancy's Board of Governors, and Assistant Director of the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation are closely intertwined.

How to maintain the beauty and wilderness of the national parks while satisfying the needs of the increasing number of park visitors every year is a major problem confronting the National Park Service. More and more attention is being given, Mr. Beard affirmed, to the solution of this problem through intensive studies on the effects of human beings on the ecological balance of preserved areas.

The Bureau of Outdoor Recreation is not, like the Park Service, a land management agency, and is therefore not responsible for maintaining natural areas. Rather, it is charged, as the result of the recommendations of the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission, with the responsibility of policy formulation, planning and interagency program coordination.

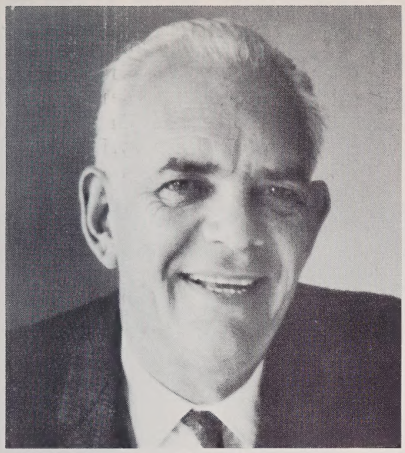
Mrs. Doris Leonard, Deputy Director of the recent First World Conference on National Parks, spoke of The Nature Conservancy's efforts in relation to the developing world concern over loss of natural areas. She urged TNC to seek U.N. recognition of its holdings so that they may be included in the existing world list of National Parks and Equivalent Reserves or used as the base for a separate list of Non-Government holdings. She said, furthermore, "I hope that we can improve our role by becoming the chief cooperating organization in America with the IUCN and I would like to see a special study undertaken with Dr. Harold J. Coolidge and others to that end."

A LOSS FOR CONSERVATION AND AMERICA

There are many reasons for mourning the death of Congressman Clem Miller early in October. He was a young, attractive and vigorous Representative from California; an up and coming politician greatly concerned with conservation issues.

Having sponsored the House version of the Pt. Reyes National Seashore bill, Miller persisted in promoting it until he and fellow Congressmen achieved victory with the enactment of the legislation September 13 of this year.

Surviving are Miller's wife and five daughters.



GEORGE L. COLLINS
Photo by Doris Leonard

George L. Collins, newly elected President of The Nature Conservancy, assumes a responsibility for which he is eminently qualified. Since retiring from the Division of Recreation Resource Planning of the National Park Service, Mr. Collins has devoted much of his time to Conservation Associates, a non-profit consulting organization dedicated to further conservation of land resources.

Born in Minnesota, educated in California and deeply interested in world-wide preservation of natural areas, George Collins recently acted as Secretary-General of the First World Conference on National Parks to which were drawn representatives of 63 nations when it was held in Seattle, Washington, last July. He has also contributed greatly to the successful establishment of the Point Reyes National Seashore near San Francisco.

Mr. Collins, his wife the former Mildred Harbour of South Carolina, and their four children live in Ross, Marin County, California, and he is a Life Member of the Sierra Club, a contributing editor of the American Planning and Civic Association, a member of the Board of Directors, Marin Conservation League and also affiliated with the Alaska Conservation Association.

CONSERVANCY MATERIALS AVAILABLE

Two new publications are available, they are: FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS and WHAT IS THE NATURE CONSERVANCY... AND WHY. Requests for materials should be directed to the National Office, 2039 K Street, N.W., Washington 6, D.C.

We wish to remind our readers that any member wishing a copy of the minutes of the annual membership meeting may obtain it by writing the National Office.

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS BY FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1962

	Operating Fund	Natural Areas Matching and Loan Fund	Endowment Fund
INCOME:			
Annual Membership Dues Received	$ 25,058.03	$	$
Less: Allocation to Chapters	10,105.63		
Dues Available for National Operations	$ 14,952.40		
Contributions - National Operations:			
General	97,377.91		
Miscellaneous Income	112.60		
Sale of Publications	173.48		
Investment Income:			
Interest	5,376.53		
From Endowment Funds	1,526.20		7,751.79
Grants from Foundations	15,000.00	35,000.00	
Special Contributions		6,728.00	1,500.84
Bequests	878.66	25,000.00	
Life Memberships			10,718.60
TOTAL INCOME	$135,397.78	$ 66,728.00	$19,971.23
EXPENSES AND LOANS:			
General and Administrative	$ 98,965.60	$	$
Project Expenses, Loans and Grants		98,407.95	
Investment Fees			473.62
Projects Closed Out		798.55	
TOTAL EXPENSES AND LOANS	$ 98,965.60	$ 99,206.50	$ 473.62
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENSES	$ 36,432.18		$19,497.61
NET EXPENDITURES AND LOANS OVER RECEIPTS		$(32,478.50)	

CONFERENCE AND 13TH ANNUAL MEETING, THE NATURE CONSERVANCY, HOTEL MCLURE, WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA SEPTEMBER 21-23, 1962

Donald W. Lynch

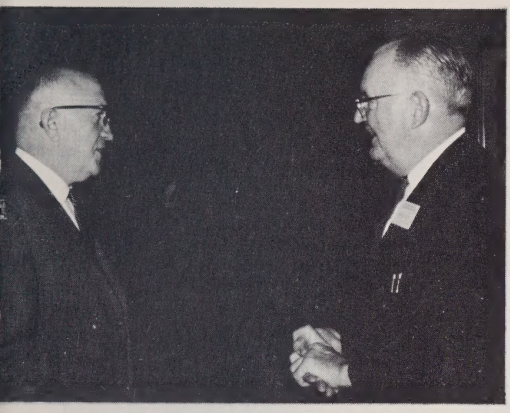
(Left to right) Willard H. Carmean, John C. Kinder, David W. Swetland, Charles A. Dambach.

John F. Shanklin

(Left to right) Mrs. Adele N. Wilson, Cyrus Mark, Mrs. Mark, Elting Arnold.

Daniel B. Beard

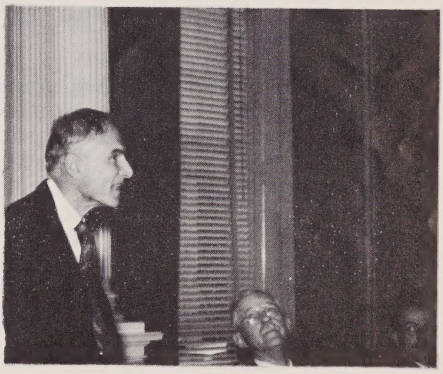
(Left to right) O. F. Barnett, Nancy Machler, Don Greame Kelley, Curtis L. Newcombe (back to camera).



(Left to right) Robert Rose, Kermit McKeever.

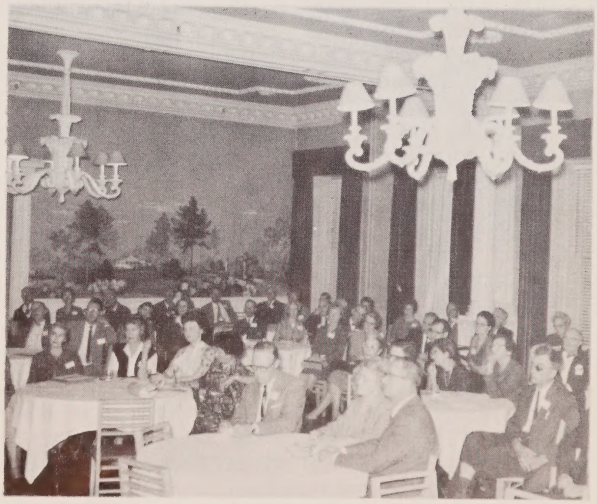
(Left to right) James B. Ross, F. Raymond Fosberg.

(Left to right) Alexander B. Adams, Walter S. Boardman, Mrs. Edward Ulrich, Spencer Jones



Conrad Chapman

Mrs. Doris F. Leonard



Business Meeting in Session, Saturday, September 22nd.

Photographs by Bruce Dowling

THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

Work of The Nature Conservancy expanded on all fronts during the year July 1, 1961 to June 30, 1962. In acres protected, membership, finance, information, and public relations, the Staff and associates have endeavored to press each opportunity to advance the purposes of The Nature Conservancy. In making this report, the writer is keenly aware that we are only gaining momentum on the way we are destined to travel.

Natural Areas Preserved

While The Nature Conservancy is concerned with many forms of open space, it seeks to preserve bits or tracts that are of unique natural significance. It may be the geological features, the scenic values, or the flora and fauna. This preservation may be by acquisition through gift or purchase. It may be by cooperation with another organization or by persuasion of the owners. That significant areas are preserved is the important thing.

Twenty-one areas with a total of 14,155 acres were effectively preserved during the year.

In connection with seven of the older projects additional lands were acquired. The most notable of these was the purchase of the Douglas fir timber on four hundred acres of the Camp Adventure property on the Northern California Coast Range Preserve. The land had been acquired in April, 1961, and through the assistance of Mr. William Sweet, we were able to purchase the timber that was not part of that land acquisition. This was a very important step in rounding out that magnificent preserve.

Membership

Membership now counts at 6,149. Three-fourths of this total comes from the chapter areas. The Ohio Chapter has the largest number, 629, with Long Island at 387, and Wisconsin a close third at 361.

While this membership growth is encouraging, we are still one of the smaller conservation organizations. Because our major effort is in the field of land acquisition and protection, with less emphasis upon the dramatic membership appealing features, we have been under something of a handicap in our attraction of people interested in outdoor activities. On the other hand, we do have something very specific to show for our efforts, namely, lands actually preserved, and we have every reason to see a rapidly growing membership in the next four years. A goal of ten thousand members is set for the current year.

Finance

In concluding the Annual Report last year, it was pointed out that finance was a matter of major concern. It still is. Under the dynamic force of Mr. Alexander B. Adams, the skillful leadership of Dr. Chapman, Dr. Goodwin, Mr. Pough, and others, $129,079.34 was raised. This is by far the best showing that our fund drive has ever made. However, $90,000 of that came from three sources. We have a long way to go before we reach the point where our work is widely supported by those who are the active members.

In any discussion of finance, we cannot overlook the basic tool, the Matching and Loan Fund. Since its beginning, $306,500 has been contributed. Old Dominion Foundation alone has granted $120,000 to this revolving fund. In the comparatively short time of its existence, $170,500 of the money loaned to project committees has been paid back as a result of local efforts. This money, of course, has gone out again into new loans.

The Auditor's Report

A summary of the Auditor's statement of our complete financial operation is available to everyone requesting it. It will appear in the next issue of The Nature Conservancy News.

Governmental Cooperation

Last year's report cited as new developments, cooperative work with the Conservation Department of the States of New York and Virginia. During the year, an equally close working relationship has been established with California. The largest and most dramatic action The Nature Conservancy has ever undertaken is the purchase of "The Forest of Nisine Marks," an area of 9,750 acres in the Santa Cruz Mountains. The story has been told and need not be repeated here, except that at a base cost of $410,000, we took title to this magnificent tract and are holding it for the eventual acquisition by the California Division of Beaches and Parks. About 2,300 acres will be used for park and recreation purposes while the balance will remain as our largest single natural area preservation under the California Park system. Along with the actual achievement has been the fine working relationship established with the California State government.

At the invitation of Governor Sawyer of Nevada and Governor Brown of California, we endeavored to set up a working basis upon which The Nature Conservancy might acquire a vast acreage along the shore of Lake Tahoe and hold it until such time as the two states could set up a bi-state authority similar to the Palisades Interstate Park of New York and New Jersey and then turn the property over to that authority. We were unable to obtain the multi-million dollar backing needed, and we are simply not in

a position to enter into that kind of fund raising campaign.

Any discussion of work with government would be incomplete if mention were not made of the fine cooperation of both the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture. The Park Service, the Forest Service, and the Bureau of Land Management have been the best friends we could ask. The work these people are quietly doing in natural area preservation is heart warming. Twenty-four areas with which The Nature Conservancy has been concerned have been preserved during the year.

By way of illustration, as this report was being prepared, a letter came from Mr. Marcus B. Whitney, Chairman of the Arizona Chapter, in which he made reference to Forest Service cooperation. I quote: "The Sycamore Canyon problem, while not yet fully completed, is progressing with the hearty cooperation of the Forest Service from Mr. Cliff down to Clyde Doran, Supervisor of the Coronado National Forest; and we look for really constructive action to be decided upon and taken, as soon as the details are ironed out."

Publications

We have improved our publications.

After long and careful work on the part of the Natural Areas Committee, a complete revision of our second basic publication, "Nature Conservancy Policies for Preservation, Care, and Use of Natural Areas" was distributed.

The old "Information Bulletin #4," "How to Preserve Your Area for Its Natural Value" was printed in a more popular form, suitable for pocket and mailing purposes with pictures and copy slanted to the selling of the preservation idea. Because of a small but very important call for more specific information, the old publication was also reproduced and continues to have some circulation.

The original stock of "The Vanishing Natural Areas of the United States" was destined to the "Out of Print" category early in the year. It was the most effective publication we had ever undertaken, and our investment in its production had been substantial. Almost everything about it still seemed good. To make even the few changes necessary to bring it up to date would add greatly to the cost of the printing. It was therefore decided to have it reproduced as originally published and then prepare a supplementary publication to bring it up to date. At the same time, it was thought that this new publication ought to be in such form as to be used for separate mailings. Thus "Highlights of 1961" came from the press. Next to the Reader's Digest story of two years ago, this has been the best membership and fund-raiser we have yet presented. In a few words and with illustrations it told our story -- "We Are Saving Land."

The great "windfall" of the year was PLEA FOR A GREEN LEGACY. Last summer a member of Secretary Udall's staff spent some time with us reviewing our entire operation in all of its ramifications. Later an article by the Secretary appeared in The Christian Science Monitor of September 11, 1961. We were very pleased with the recognition he gave us for here was a high official in government naming us as one of the few national organizations actually achieving tangible results in land preservation.

Later we learned that the Sinclair Oil Corporation was considering a pictorial, high quality publication of the Secretary's article. We were asked if this were done, could we place a thousand copies in the hands of people who we knew were active in land preservation work. We accepted gladly, but still did not fully realize how generous the Sinclair people were being in their publication. An important story is told in color and with effective printing. We are glad to be thus recognized as a vital force in land preservation in this very beautiful brochure.

College Natural Areas

Following up the program of cooperation with colleges in the establishment of natural areas for scientific study, a conference was held at Allerton Park near Monticello, Illinois, on June 1. Seventy-five scientists and administrators came together for the purpose of exchanging ideas and developing new concepts in the "Preservation, Use and Management of College Natural Areas." There is no question but that those present gained inspiration from the achievements of each other and that the whole movement of colleges acquiring lands for scientific study gained added impetus as a result of that meeting.

Our First Annual Independent Meeting

In past years, the Annual Meeting of The Nature Conservancy has been held in conjunction with the annual meetings of the American Institute of Biological Sciences. This has been convenient in many ways, but has also produced problems in attendance for others than members of that organization. When it was learned that the meeting for 1962 was scheduled to be held in Corvallis, Oregon, it seemed time to examine policy. The matter was discussed by the Governors at the October and January meetings. It was decided that the time had come to function independently. Thus we are assembled here today.

Since we had worked as a part of the American Institute of Biological Sciences in the past, and to provide an opportunity for program review at that meeting, a symposium, "The Role of Small Natural Areas in Biological Research," was conducted at the Corvallis meeting. Mr. Dowling and Mr. Kelley from the Staff were

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aided by Governors and other friends. There was also a luncheon for Conservancy members and friends at which Dr. Curtis L. Newcombe presided.

Conclusion

There is every indication that we are going to move ahead at a greatly accelerated pace in the months ahead. While we are pointing our work toward actual projects of land preservation, either on our own or in cooperation with others, I believe we must retain a high degree of flexibility. The results, lands preserved for public and scientific use, not the rules for approach must be our guide.

We shall be successful to the degree that we enjoy the wholehearted support of membership. The chapters, the project committees and the thousands of individuals are the strength or weakness of our organization.

I cannot conclude this report without words of appreciation to the members of the Board of Governors for their wholehearted and sympathetic support. There are just not words to express thanks to our very great leader of the past two years, Mr. Alexander B. Adams. He has been a good friend and counselor.

There is another man whom I wish to mention in particular. All of us are deeply indebted to Mr. Elting Arnold for his sound judgment, keen insight, and tireless efforts for The Nature Conservancy. Personally, I feel working for the Conservancy is a glorious experience.

SILENT SPRING - by Rachel Carson.
Houghton Mifflin Co., 366 pages. Illus. $5.00.

Inevitably, when an author with the stature and following of Rachel Carson writes on a subject as controversial as the use of pesticides, the battle lines will be quickly drawn. And it was so with the case of Silent Spring. Even before the last pre-publication installment had appeared in the New Yorker, charges and countercharges had started flying.

The emotionalism that now surrounds any discussion of the book has, unfortunately, obscured a pertinent fact: Miss Carson is not arguing against the controlled use of pesticides or against all attempts to interfere artificially with the balance of nature. She readily grants that restraints are necessary on certain types of pests. However, she does point out that man's ability to create new poisons has outstripped his ability to calculate the overall effect of their use. Given the state of science today, this is not surprising. Both chemistry and physics have recently been advancing at a faster rate than biology, so instruments for changing our environment have developed more rapidly than our knowledge of what those changes may mean. In her book, Miss Carson is trying to underline this point and to raise a voice of caution. She is simply telling us to think twice before we take steps that we may not be able to retrace.

Granted that she may sometimes seem to exaggerate a point, this has always been the way of reformers working for an unpopular cause. They must shock, if they are to win an audience; and gaining an audience is their first and most important objective. For without an audience, there can be no discussion; and without discussion, there can be no truth. By bringing before the public an issue that has deeply concerned many professional biologists, Miss Carson has rendered a distinct service. Like Lincoln Steffens and other crusading writers of the past, she has focused attention on an important problem; and her book is most certainly required reading, not only for conservationists, but for all those interested in current issues.

Miss Carson is honorary chairman of the Maine Chapter of The Nature Conservancy; and Louis and Lois Darling, whose illustrations are up to their usual high standards, are active in the Connecticut Chapter. A.B.A.